पास बुक (डी०ई०पी०बी०) योजना के अंतर्गत शुल्क शाखा दरों में वृद्धि करना।

Domestic Steel Units hit by Demand Constraints

1326. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic steel units are hit by demand constraint;

(b) whether the problems of the indigenous producers have been compunded by the dumping problem mainly from the Commonwealth of the Independent States;

(c) whether the industry has demanded adjustment of excise on different products so that it can compete with import; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is a fact that with the lowering of import duties in the recent years, the indigenous producers have had to face increasing competition from imports. Imports from CIS countries had increased during April—Dec. 97 in comparison to imports during the corresponding period in 1996.

(c) and (d) The steel industry has been requesting for reduction in excise duty on different steel products. These requests have been duly considered by Government.

Cheating by Reputed Building Construction Companies of Delhi

1327. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the cheating being indulged in by "reputed" building construction companies of Delhi including the Ansals, particularly while cancelling allotments for non-payment of instalments of flats under construction on SFS style;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the fact that some of these builder companies charge 20—25% of the estimated cost and not of the registration money as charged by DDA/GDA/MDA etc.; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to stop this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Instances of cheating by construction companies of Delhi have been highlighted in the representations addressed to the Government from time to time. Specific instances not brought to the notice of the Government.

(c) The cases against the dis-honest builders can presently be filed under Consumer Protection Act 1986 and also under the Indian Penal Code. However, the Government is considering to frame a specific Legislation for regulating activities of promoters, builders and property agents in Delhi in order to address these problems.

Maharashtra Water Supply and Sewerage Project Stage-II

1328. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Maharashtra water supply and sewarage project stage-II;

(b) by when the work of this project will be taken up for execution; and

(c) the expected period required for its completions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The Government of Maharashtra has reported that as